*HOST.* No, nor I neither: I'll be at your elbow.

*FANG.* An I but fist him once: an a[5] come but within my vice [6];—

*HOST.* I am undone by his going: I warrant you, he's an infinitive thing upon my score:—Good master Fang, hold him sure:—good master Snare, let him not 'scape. He comes continuantly to Pie-corner, (saving your manhoods,) to buy a saddle: and he's indited to dinner to the lubbar's head[7] in Lumbert-Street, to master Smooth's the silkman: I pray ye, since my exion is entered, and my case so openly known to the world, let him be brought in to his answer. A hundred mark is a long loan[8] for a poor lone woman[9] to bear: and I have borne, and borne, and borne; and have been fubbed off,

[6]— an a' conie but within my VICE ;] Vice or grasp ; a metaphor taken from a smith's vice : there is another reading in the old edition, *vietu*, which I think not so good. POPE.

*Vice* is the reading of the folio, *view* of the quarto. STEEVENS.

Theifal is vulgarly called the *vice* in the West of England. HENLEY.

7—lubbar's head—] This is, I suppose, a colloquial corruption of the Libbard's head. JOHNSON.

[8] A hundred mark is a long LOAN —] Old copy—long *one*. STEEVENS.

Along *one?* a long what? It is almost needless to observe, how familiar it is with our poet to play the chimes upon words similar in sound, and differing in signification: and therefore I make no question but he wrote—[u] A hundred mark is a long *loan* for a poor *lone* woman to bear: " i. e. a hundred mark is a good round sum for a poor widow to venture on trust. THEOBALD.

The alteration on the suggestion of Theobald, has been very unnecessarily and improperly made. The hostess means to say that a hundred mark is a long *mark*, that is, *score*, *reckoning*, for her to bear. The use of mark in the singular number

in familiar language,, admits very well of this equivoque. DOUCE.

9 — a poor lone woman —•] A *lone woman* is an *unmarried woman.* So, in the title-page to A Collection of Records, &c. 1642 : "That Queen Elizabeth being a *lone'tooman,* and having few friends, refusing to marry/* &c* Again, in Maurice Kyffin's translation of Terence's Andria, 1588 : "Moreover this Glycerie is a *lone woman;* "—** turn hcec *sola* est mulier/' In The First